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FEB 1952 INTELLOFAX 29

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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CLASSIFICATION SECRET/CONTROL -- U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY
SECURITY INFORMATION

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 28 June 1952

SUBJECT Foreign Trade; Effects of Raw Material
Shortages

NO. OF PAGES 1

DATE OF
INFO.NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

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1. At a conference at the Czechoslovak Ministry of Foreign Trade attended by managers of the state monopolies on 30 May 1952, Antonin Gregor, Minister of Foreign Trade, announced that he would send about 200 representatives to the West in June and July 1952 to build up Czech export trade. The Czechs hope to attract foreign buyers with special export quality and price arrangements for glass, textiles and machinery.
2. Gregor will probably be removed from office in August or September 1952. During his recent visit in Moscow, Gregor succeeded in postponing his removal and got permission to try once more to improve Czech foreign trade, but he will probably fail to satisfy Moscow. Vice-Minister Soucek will stay in the Ministry of Foreign Trade.
3. L.A. Afanasiyev, chief of the Soviet commercial mission in Czechoslovakia, has stated that the Czechs will receive 20,000 tons of copper from the USSR in 1952.
4. Under government decree number 129 of 31 May 1952, the stockpiling of raw materials is now controlled by the State Planning Office which will apply rigid controls on the use of ferro-alloy materials and non-ferrous metals.
5. The Prague-Smichov railroad car factory of the Tatra national corporation, which produces diesel engine material (sic), almost closed down for lack of raw materials. The plant management and party personnel circularized the plant's 800 workers, trying to recruit men for the Moravska Ostrava coal mines, but only one of the men volunteered.

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SECURITY INFORMATION**INFORMATION REPORT**

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia \ DO NOT CIRCULATE

DATE DISTR. 28 June 1952

SUBJECT Arrests of Government Officials

NO. OF PAGES 1

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1. Eng. Outrata of the State Planning Office has been arrested (1)

2. Fnu Fousek, Secretary to the late Vice-Minister of Ore Mining Svatopluk Rada
who committed suicide, (2) has been arrested

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(1) Comment: It is not clear whether the individual referred
to above is identical with or related to Dr. Eduard Outrata, formerly
deputy chairman of the State Planning Office, whose arrest was reported
in June 1951.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia.

DATE DISTR. 30 June 1952

SUBJECT 1. Kuncice Plant of the Vitkovice Iron Works
2. Miscellaneous Economic Information

NO. OF PAGES 1

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1. Further development of the Kuncice steel complex of the Vitkovice Iron Works national corporation has been delayed by the inadequate water supply. It is difficult to service even the present facilities at Kuncice since the water situation was wrongly assessed in the original plans. The Czechs are building a pipeline from the Moravska Ostrava dam to Kuncice to improve the water supply.
2. A recent spot check of a coal processing unit in Moravska Ostrava showed that workers allow rock and extraneous material to be washed and sorted with coal in order to achieve coal tonnage quotas. In one case it was found that 62% of the processed material was rock instead of coal.
3. It is expected that a new ministry will be organized in 1952 to supervise and centralize government procurement. This ministry would work closely with the armed forces to set up wartime requisitioning arrangements.

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